USS RONALD REAGAN (CVN 76) FEB. 4, 2006 VOLUME 3, ISSUE 5

COMMUNICATOR







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On the front cover



Cover photo by PHAN (AW) Christine Singh

NCC1 Valerie McNairybids a final farewell to her grandfather before she commits his ashes to the sea during a burial at sea held on board USS Ronald Reagan's (CVN 76). The ceremony, which also comemmorated the Battle of Coral Sea, was held while in the approximate latitude and longitude in the Pacific Ocean where the USS Lexington was sunk during World War II.

This newspaper is an authorized publication for military members on board USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76). Contents of The Great Communicator are not the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the United States Navy.

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Reagan holds burial-at-sea on historical site

By JO3 Cara Maib

Staff Writer

Sailors from USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) conducted a burial at sea in conjunction with a wreath-laying ceremony to honor veterans Jan. 29 near the site where the USS Lexington (CV 2) was sunk by the Japanese during the Battle of Coral Sea during World War II. connections to Sailors aboard Reagan.

"It was a fitting tribute," said Navy Career Counselor 1st Class Valerie McNairy, whose grandfather, Fireman 3rd Class William F. Bolton, had survived the attack on Pearl Harbor aboard USS West Virginia (BB 48).

"He died Dec. 27, 2005. My dad mailed his ashes to the ship,

"It was important for the family because no memorial was ever held for him. I'm glad I was able to do it for him."

-- NC1 Valerie McNairy

The ashes of twelve veterans, one Marine and 11 Sailors, were committed to the sea during the afternoon ceremony. The familiar 21-gun salute and the playing of "taps" marked the end of a military career for those being honored. Making the service even more special was the fact that two of the deceased veterans had personal

and they arrived here the day we were leaving Australia. It was important for the family because no memorial was ever held for him. I'm glad I was able to do it for him," said McNairy.

Capt. Richard Butler, Deputy Commander of Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 14 currently embarked aboard Reagan, said he also knew one of the 12 veterans honored during the service as a family acquaintance.

"He actually died about five years ago and was cremated. His daughter had his ashes, and she found within his effects some letters that he'd written stating that he'd wanted to have his ashes spread over the South Pacific, preferably either off of a Navy ship or Navy aircraft," said Butler.

"When I ran into his daughter back around Thanksgiving, I told her I would see what I could do. We got his ashes on the ship and got him included in the ceremony," added Butler.

Two wreaths were also tossed into the ocean during the wreath-laying portion of the ceremony. One wreath was for the USS Lexington (CV 2), and one for the Japanese aircraft carrier Shoho that was also sunk during the battle.

"It's celebrating the death of the men who were fighting for what they believed in, on both sides," said Chief Religious Programs Specialist Jason Zaun, who helped coordinate the event. "We believed a certain way and our men died Burial ... Cont. on page 10



PHAN Lawrence Davis

A bugler aboard USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) plays "Taps" at the conclusion of a burial at sea in honor of 12 veterans.

Senior leadership offers new program for First Class Petty Officers

By PH3 Jason Behnke

Staff Writer

Thanks to the chief petty officer (CPO) community aboard USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76), the ship's first class petty officers will now be better equipped for the task of leading their people.

A new program, designed by the ship's CPO community, involves a series of courses that cover various topics on the subject of leadership. Reagan's chiefs believe this will help those Sailors trying to rise in the ranks become more successful when they actually advance to the next pay grade.

Although it is a collaboration of the entire CPO community aboard Reagan, Senior Chief Aviation Support Equipment Technician Earl Jefferson (AW/SW) serves as the overall coordinator for the new leadership course.

"The purpose of this program is to provide tools and leadership tips to help them grow as leaders," said Jefferson. "In turn, they can take these skills and help the more junior Sailors, because they are the future of our Navy."

According to Jefferson, the courses will be held biweekly in the CPO mess during the evenings to allow for maximum attendance. The schedule will carry on throughout deployment and will cover a variety of topics -- everything from how to write evaluations to studying for the advancement exams.

"The First Class Petty Officers are an integral part of any command," said Senior Chief Hospital Corpsman (SW/AW) Alfred Lamb, Reagan's

Tell the world!

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a fleet Hometown
News Release form.

Don't delay.
Old news isn't
news at all.

Leadership ... Cont. on page 4

Insiderdot**Com**

Classical reading

www.readprint.com

This website offers thousands of free books for the classics enthusiast. To find the book you want to read, start by looking through the author index. It has authors ranging from Charles Dickens to Edgar Allan Poe. If you know the book but not the author, you can do a title search. There is even a whole page dedicated to William Shakespeare that tells about his life and displays all of his works. Another section of this site that might entice you is the coupons page. Find your favorite store from A to Z then find out what coupons they have to offer. The best part about this site is that its all free.

Who was that?

www.all-biographies.com

All-Biographies.com contains a growing collection of biographies about famous and not-so-famous men and women. While providing a large assortment of biographies at the website, the site also provides a significant collection of biographical links, taking you to biographies housed elsewhere online. This site has a categorical index so you can search for authors, doctors, politicians and many others without having to go through a list of names. You can find a list of newly added biographies on the right side of the site.



1966 Lunik 9 lands on moon

On February 3, 1966, the Soviet Union accomplishes the first controlled landing on the moon, when the unmanned spacecraft Lunik 9 touches down on the Ocean of Storms.

1924 Woodrow Wilson dies

Woodrow Wilson, the 28th president of the United States, dies in Washington, D.C. at the age of 67. He successfully advocated the creation of the League of Nations as a means of maintaining peace in the postwar world.

Leadership

Continued from page 3

Medical Department Leading CPO. "The better trained they are, the better the command."

"What we're teaching is just general CPO knowledge," said Senior Chief Navy Career Counselor (SW/AW) Zachariah Phillips, who serves as an instructor for the course. "That's what we're all gearing toward -- making that transition from senior petty officer to chief petty officer that much easier."

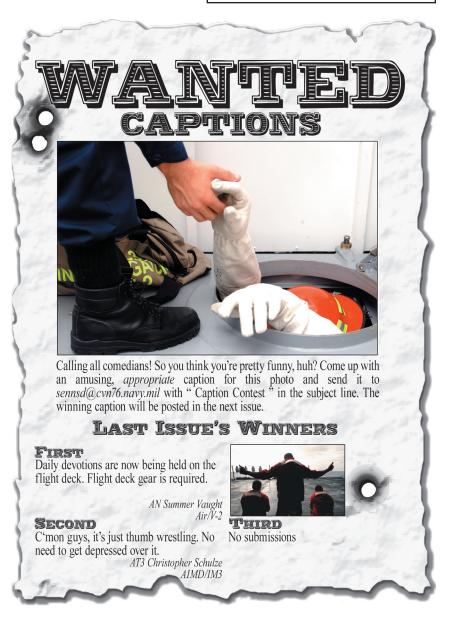
The efforts of Reagan's CPO community are not going unnoticed, and are widely appreciated by all who attend.

"This has been such a great opportunity for me to learn and to take what I have learned and pass it on to my troops," said Aviation Electronics Technician 1st Class (AW/SW) Lindsey Kilgo. "I'd really like to thank the CPO mess for putting it together," she said.

With many of the ships' first class petty officers waiting on the advancement results, the training appears to have been implemented right on time. With the support of the ship's CPOs, Sailors can rest easy knowing that the Navy leaders of tomorrow are equipped with the wisdom to make them successful.

Reagan is the Navy's newest Nimitz-class nuclear powered aircraft carrier and is currently underway in the Western Pacific in support of the global war on terrorism and maritime security operations.

Are you an artist? The Great Communicator is looking for a new comic strip. Submissions can be no larger than 3.5" x 5". They don't have to be military related, but they must be appropriate. Bring an electronic copy of your comic to the print shop (4-180-2-Q) and ask to speak to JO2 Senn. Good luck!





Forward Deployed ARG Arrives in Guam

From Commander, Amphibious Force, U.S. 7th Fleet Public Affairs

USS ESSEX, Guam (NNS) -- The Forward-Deployed Amphibious Ready Group (ARG) arrived in Guam Jan. 24 to complete the transport of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) for Training in an Urban Environment Exercise (TRUEX), to be held in various locations on the island.

The 31st MEU Marines embarked the Forward Deployed ARG Jan. 21 at White Beach Naval Facility in Okinawa, Japan.

Navy's 'Million Dollar Babies' Ready to Mix It

Up

By JO3 Kimberly Williams, Naval Base Ventura County Public Affairs

PORT HUENEME, Calif. (NNS) -- The Navy has named two women to its lineup for the 2006 Armed Forces Boxing Championships. This will be the first year women will compete for the Navy.

Utilitiesman (SCW)
3rd Class Sonja Deputee of
Naval Mobile Construction
Battalion (NMCB) 5 and

Information Systems Technician (SW) 2nd Class Triva Pino of USS Port Royal (CG 73) homeported in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, will compete for the Navy during the Armed Forces Boxing Championships Feb. 7-10 at Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC) Port Hueneme Warfield gymnasium.

DoD Plans to Boost Access to Military Child Care

By Gerry J. Gilmore, American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON
(NNS) -- The Defense
Department will use a
multifaceted approach
to boost the availability
of child care services for
military families, a senior
official said, Jan. 26.

The ongoing realignment of U.S. forces from longstanding overseas bases in Europe and elsewhere to stateside installations and high operational tempos caused by the war against are placing terrorism demands on the military child care system, Witte said. Consequently, DoD wants to "jump-start" its military child care programs to provide more spaces for the children of active-duty reserve-component and service members.

Juneau Holds 'Right Spirit' Campaign

From USS Juneau Public
Affairs

USS JUNEAU, At Sea (NNS) -- USS Juneau (LPD 10) held a 'Right Spirit' campaign Jan. 24-26 in the days leading up to its arrival to Guam in order to promote positive behaviors while on liberty both in Guam and also for Sailors' lives in general.

Juneau's three-day alcohol awareness push was marked by peer group discussions, Plan-of-the-Day (POD) notes and important words on the subject from the ship's commanding officer. Capt. Ronald Horton. The educational format was in accordance with the Navy Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program's (NADAP) ongoing prevention campaign called 'The Right Spirit,' which promotes healthy lifestyles.

VS-24 Scouts Take S-3B Viking to New Horizons

By JO2 Stephens Murphy, USS Theodore Roosevelt Public Affairs

USS THEODORE
ROOSEVELT, At sea
(NNS) -- During their
current deployment with
USS Theodore Roosevelt's

(CVN 71) embarked air wing, Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 8, the "Scouts" of Sea Control Squadron (VS) 24 have taken the capabilities of the S-3B Viking to a new level.

Since late October, in addition to performing their normal missions conducting in-flight refueling for CVW-8 and surveillance operations for Theodore Roosevelt Carrier Strike Group (TRCSG) in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and maritime security operations (MSO), the Scouts have also been flying intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) missions in support of British-led coalition ground forces of Multinational Division - Southeast (MND-SE), which are conducting operations in the southern part of Iraq. Helicopters flying from Theodore Roosevelt have been conducting similar missions in MND-SE, as well.

Recruiters Join Forces With Navy Special Warfare

By Jeffrey Nichols, Navy Recruiting Command Public Affairs

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) -- Navy Recruiting Command (CNRC) and Naval Special Warfare Command (NSWC) joined forces in January to begin the first of several national recruiting initiatives that are designed to bolster Naval Special Warfare (NSW) recruiting.

The first initiative created a Naval Special Warfare/SpecialOperations Coordinator at each Navy Recruiting District (NRD). Each NRD will send its coordinator to Coronado, Calif., for familiarization training on SEAL, Special Combatant-Warfare Craft Crewmen (SWCC), Explosive Ordinance Disposal (EOD) and DIVE programs.

Navy T-34 Air Crew Identified

From Naval Air Training Command Public Affairs

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas (NNS) -- The Navy has released the names of the two crew members killed in the Jan. 27 crash of a T-34C Turbomentor in Corpus Christi, Texas.

The aircraft belonged to Training Squadron (VT) 27 and crashed approximately three miles south of Naval Air Station Corpus Christi. There were no survivors.

The deceased are:

Lt. Raul D. Jimenez, 31, of Freeport, Texas

Ensign Jeremy L. Drag, 24, of Millington, Ill.

The cause of the mishap is under investigation.





Foday, We and 9













Just for Laughs

Comics Provided by Military.com

Private Murphy by Mark Baker

Broadside by Jeff Bacon













Music from another room

By PHAN (AW) Christine Singh
Staff Writer

Sailors assigned to USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) bring a new meaning to the phrase "music in the night."

Every Wednesday and Saturday night at 8 p.m. in the ship's fo'c'sle, crew members gather to share their musical talents through the Musicians' Fellowship.

"Anyone who's a musician and wants to share with the rest of the crew is welcome to participate," said Joel W. Gossett, Reagan's Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) agent and the coordinator for the musician fellowship organization.

According to Gossett, his career in criminal investigation doesn't limit his interest in music.

"Though it's obviously not my job, it's a hobby of mine that I enjoy. I also saw a way to serve the crew and the Sailors on board," said Gossett. According to Gosset, it's a service that Sailors seem to be enjoying.

"We usually have about 20

flight operations at night, they're usually unable to make it."

"I've been involved in music all my life," said Gossett. "I've got experiencethroughchoiranddirecting musical and theater productions, but some the participants in the group have more talent than I do. Some of the officers who show up even have degrees in music."

According to Gossett, however, the talent of the participants don't stem from degrees alone.

"Last Sunday a young man performed a song he wrote himself. He played the guitar and did a vocal solo," said Gossett. "We like to encourage that. I know that some Sailors in the air wing get us into singing songs that they've sung together in other commands or exercises."

According to Gossett, the Sailors participating in the program have already started rehearsing for Sunday morning Contemporary Protestant Services

"Many of the Sailors who attend the meetings are church attendees but

"Anybody's welcome to bring whatever instruments they have on board with them."

-- Joel Gossett, NCIS Agent

people show up to the meetings," said Gossett. "Some play the guitar and others participate vocally, through singing. We have one Sailor that brought an electrical drum set on board that we set up occasionally."

According to Gossett, those wanting to participate with more unconventional instruments are also welcome to join.

"There was a violinist who played with us, and someone who plays the saxophone has also shown some interest in attending," said Gossett.

According to Gossett, the group has to alter their schedule around general quarters (GQ) drills and other events essential to operational readiness. However, the schedule does not seem to limit the talents in the music field.

"There are some very talented people in the air wing," said Gossett. "Because of their busy schedule and most just show up to have fun," said Gossett.

According to Gossett, the group seems open to the possibility of branching out to areas outside church and shipboard entertainment.

"I know some Sailors participated in the talent show during 'Wog Day,' and I believe some played during the steel beach picnics we've had," said Gossett. "If possible, we also may be able to attend churches in some of the ports we visit and perform there as well."

Whatever the future plans of the Musician's Fellowship, there's no doubt that others are welcome to join in their meetings.

"Anybody's welcome to bring whatever instruments they've brought on board with them," said Gossett. "It would be great to have anyone else who is interested in music and wants to share their talent with other people to get involved."

MWR brings Singapore to crew

By PHAN Michael Patterson

Staff Writer

MWR has a lot of planned activities for USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) Sailors in Singapore.

If the price of Brisbane tours was overwhelming, the cost of the Singapore tours will be a welcome relief to the crew. All tours are \$30 and lower. Sailors can expect the same services and venues available on the pier as were provided in Brisbane.

As of right now there are no phone services on the pier, but the issue is being looked at as we make our way to Singapore. All atheletic events are still being arranged and more information will be released through MWR as it becomes available.

MWR Tours

Full Day City Tour With Lunch \$25

Get a glimpse of all Singapore has to offer and see the magnificent skyline. Take a break midday and devour a delicious lunch. Minimum 30 persons.

Zoo Tour with Breakfast \$25

Visit the zoo and enjoy a nice homestyle breakfast. Afterward, see the 410 different species represented, including the endangered white rhino, Bengal white tigers and polar bears. Minimum 30 persons.

Jurong Bird Park \$17

Over 8,000 birds can be seen at this beautifully landscaped park. Watch one of the many bird shows performed through out the day. Minimum 30 persons.

Singapore By Night Dinner \$25

Enjoy dining by the river. After dinner, visit the worlds largest water fountain. Take in the beautiful sight of the central business district via Benjamin Sheares Bridge. Minimum 30 persons.

Night Safari \$21

Exlpore the park by foot or take the night safari tram tour. Be sure to check out the inside of the enclosed Mangrove Walks where bats flap around your head. Truly a memorable experience. Minimum 15 persons.

Uniquely Singapore - Shop at Chinatown \$21

Shop until you drop at the many stores and boutiques in China Town. Singapore is the food capitol of Asia, so stop and have lunch at one of the varieties of restaurants. Minimum 15 persons.

Sentosa Island Tour \$25

Sentosa Island is located about 500 meters off the southern coast of Singapore. Check out the museums, fine aquariums and outdoor activities Sentosa has to offer. Minimum 15 persons.

Cheng Ho Imperial Cruises \$25

An exact replica of a famous Imperial vessel of the Ming Dynasty, the Da Fu, M.V. Cheng Ho offers a historic cruise vessel with all the modern day amenities. The guide will give you a fascinating insight into a part of Singapore that can only be seen from the sea, before sitting down to a sumptuous international buffet dinner. Minimum 15 persons.

Full Day Mountain Biking with Lunch \$21

Ride through to the picturesque outdoors of Singapore. Minimum 25 persons.

What are your plans in Singapore?



CS3 (AW/SW) Joshua Amosara "I'm going out to see some new places."



HTCS (SW/AW) Frankie Furry "Completing repairs in the reactor."



GM2 William Greathouse "I'm going to go out and have a good meal."



ET2 Lyndsey Tollis "I'm buying gifts for my family."

PEADER'S Letters to the Editor

Dear Admiral Miller,

On behalf of the Queensland Government and the people of Queensland, I want to thank you and your taskforce and the members of the respective ships' crews on their fine display of professional behaviour during their visit to Queensland - the "Smart State".

The feedback I have received have shown them to be fine ambassadors for the Navy and their country.

I would be delighted if you would convey this message to the Captains and crews of the respective ships.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Beattie, MP PREMIER AND TREASURER

I know everyone has heard thier LPOs and Chiefs put the information out on Singapore, but it's very important that you take it to heart. Yes, it's a liberty port. That's not an excuse to go out, get drunk and get in trouble for doing something that probably wouldn't be blinked at in any other country. All you have to do is be respectful. Don't litter, don't be obnoxious or rude, and don't break their rules. You're a visitor to thier country, and you have to keep that in mind when you leave the ship. Have fun, but mind your manners!

-The Editor

Burial

Continued from page 3

for our cause, and the Japanese believed their way and they died for what they believed in. It's good that we're celebrating both sides," said Zaun.

The ceremony concluded just as the sun was setting over the horizon. According to Butler, the ceremony was a fitting tribute to those who were honored during the service, both recently and during the Battle of Coral Sea.

"The ceremony was great, a traditional Navy at-sea ceremony, and it was very moving," said Butler. "The Sailors who volunteered to take part in the service also did a great job," he said.

Reagan is the Navy's newest Nimitz-class nuclear powered aircraft carrier and is currently underway in the Western Pacific on its maiden deployment in support of the global war on terror and maritime security operations.

Please remember to maintain AC boundaries while transiting the ship!



Cheaper by the Dozen

ACTING = ADIRECTING = C STORYLINE = C CAMERA WORK = A OVERALL = B

Today's Movies

Ch. 2 - The Professional Ch. 3 - John Q Ch. 4 -Cheaper by the Dozen Ch. 5 - Darkness Falls

Tomorrow's Movies

Ch. 2 - Austin Powers Ch. 3 - Platoon Ch. 4 - The 9sland Ch. 5 - Duplex

by PHAN **Thomas Kuhl**

Cheaper by the Dozen is a corny comedy about a happy couple and their twelve kids. They're from a small town but they move to a new city so dad (Steve Martin; The Three Amigos, Runaway Bride) can pursue his dream of coaching his alma mater football team. Meanwhile mom (Bonnie Hunt; Jerry Maguire, Life with Bonnie) travels around the country promoting her new book. During all of this, the kids are doing everything they can think of to get their parents attention.

Can somebody please teach them about birth control?

Looking Steve at Martin, I wonder how he could ever play football, let alone coach a football team. He really doesn't do much for this role.

About the only thing that could have made Bonnie Hunt seem more interesting is if she were to jump off a bridge with her book. Miss "Oh look at me, I'm raising twelve kids and have nothing better to do than write a book about it," needs to spend more time with her kids and less time ignoring them.

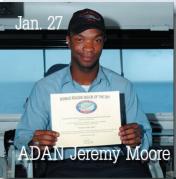
As for the kids, let's just all thank God Hillary Duff didn't treat us to a song off her latest album. Although it might've been better than her heinous acting.

So if you're feeling particularly bored today, go ahead and tune in to channel four for Cheaper by the Dozen. Otherwise, stick to the public service announcements on AFN.









Department: Weapons

Where are you from? Houston, Texas

Serve my country

life to the fullest

daughter

What inspires you? My

Job Title: Trunk Supervisor

Why did you join the Navy?

Who do you hold responsible

for your success? My family

What piece of advice would

you pass on to others? Live

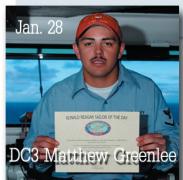
Department: HS-4
Job Title: PC/LSE
Where are you from? Bay
City, Texas
What inspires you? My
family and people I work
with

Why did you join the Navy?

To see the world

Who do you hold responsible

Who do you noid responsible for your success? My parents What piece of advice would you pass on to others? Strive for success



Department: Engineering
Job Title: Maintenance man
Where are you from?
Manteca, Calif.
What inspires you? No
answer

Why did you join the Navy?

To see the world

Who do you hold responsible

Who do you hold responsible for your success? My godfather
What piece of advice would

you pass on to others? One day at a time

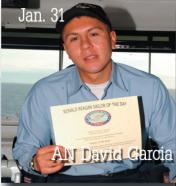


Department: VFA-22
Job Title: Ordnanceman
Where are you from? Lowell,
Wis.

What inspires you? Family Why did you join the Navy? To experience something new

Who do you hold responsible for your success? My supervisors early in my career What piece of advice would you pass on to others? No answer

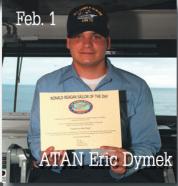




Department: Air
Job Title: DCPO
Where are you from? San
Bernadino, Calif.
What inspires you? God and
Ronald Reagan
Why did you join the Navy?
School money

Who do you hold responsible for your success? My grams and sis

What piece of advice would you pass on to others? **Don't get tattoos**



Department: VFA-115
Job Title: AME
Where are you from? Lake
City, Fla.
What inspires you? Seeing
people try
Why did you join the Navy?
To get an education
Who do you hold responsible
for your success? My parents
What piece of advice would
you pass on to others?

Department: VAQ-139
Job Title: Plane Captain
Where are you from? Vallejo,
Calif.

What inspires you?

Why did you join the Navy? Experience and tradition Who do you hold responsible for your success? My squadron

What piece of advice would you pass on to others?
Always do your best





⋖